



Battle Born

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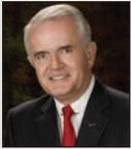
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Battle Born

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ON THE COVER: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle: New buzz words in Nevada.

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Comments and Contributions

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name, phone number, e-mail and complete mailing address and comments to:

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FROM THE ADJUTANT GENERAL

Maj. Gen. Cindy Kirkland

2009 promises more challenges, opportunities



Although you are reading this in February, I write this letter as we begin a new year filled with more challenges. We have several units deployed, and still others going through the difficult pre-mobilization phases or preparing for the many Expeditionary Combat Support and Air Expeditionary Force missions. At the same time, we are faced with difficult issues here at home.

As the economy struggles to recover, we are asked to do even more with significantly less. Both on the national and local levels, we are faced with balancing our limited resources to ensure we do not leave critical gaps in our support of the war fight or our obligations here at home for the citizens of Nevada. I have no doubt, if left to the creativity and skill of our soldiers and airmen, we will be successful in finding solutions and getting the job done with the Battle Born spirit.

Nationally, the National Guard has made tremendous strides in trying to level the playing field with our active duty counterparts.

Legislation in Washington has resulted in the creation of the first ever four-star general officer leading the Guard. General McKinley was confirmed late last year and is now able to present the needs of the Guard regarding our homeland mission directly to the Secretary of Defense. And

with the recognition of the Guard Bureau as a joint activity, it opens the door for our staff getting joint service credit. For the future leaders of this organization, that will be instrumental in ensuring you have the experience and credit required to be competitive.

The final report of the Commission on the National Guard and Reserve published Spring 2008 is worth the time to read. The commission was asked to look at the roles and missions, structure and responsibilities of the National Guard and Reserves. In their final report, they acknowledged much of what the National Guard leadership has been saying for years. The Guard is a capable, professional force that has served this nation for more than 350 years.

There are many lessons we can teach the active component if given the chance. One of the core competencies of the Guard is support to civil authorities. We live, work

and serve in the communities all across this nation and have relationships that the active component is not able to build, not because they are not capable, but because the frequent transfers and reassignments mean they are not in one place long enough to allow it.

With the problems we will face in the current economy, we will continue to find the competition for limited resources that must be balanced between the AD, Reserves and National Guard. It is critical that every National Guard member serve as a spokesman in our communities explaining the importance and value the Guard brings to the nation and the state. Every chance you get, tell the Guard story.

There is no greater calling than to don a military uniform and serve the citizens of this great nation. To those who have answered that call, I salute you. ■

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FROM THE SENIOR ENLISTED STAFF

Sgt. 1st Class David Sousa

Career counselors available for guidance, options

By Sgt. 1st Class David Sousa, 422nd Expeditionary Signal Battalion



Throughout the entire process, from enlistment in the Nevada Army Guard through retirement, there is a group of soldiers dedicated to every Guardsman's career. They are known as battalion career counselors, and they serve as special staff advisers to commanders and command

sergeants major.

The battalion career counselors also assist first sergeants with implementing and monitoring the Army Guard's sponsorship program and ensuring the program adheres to state and unit standards.

Career counselors contact every new soldier to ensure a smooth transition to the Nevada Guard and serve as the first sponsor for every soldier. Battalion career counselors are there for the meet-and-greet event at reception drills and at the Battle Hand-off at the Recruit Sustainment Program drill to welcome every soldier in their permanent battalion. (See related article on page 18.)

In the Air Guard, each squadron has a primary and alternate unit career advisor that is responsible for their respective unit. There are approximately 20 in the Nevada Air Guard. If an airman does not know his or her unit career advisor, call Master Sgt. Clint Dudley at (775) 788-4543. These advisors are similar to career counselors and can

provide guidance and advice throughout one's Air Guard career.

Battalion career counselors directly impact the National Guard end strength through counseling and conducting regular attrition management and retention activities. Battalion career counselors also communicate the benefits of being an active Army Guard soldier and family member via unit newsletters, regular briefings, unit Web pages and e-mail correspondence to soldiers, leaders and family members.

Battalion career counselors post publications, announcements and other strength maintenance material to the unit retention bulletin boards. Battalion career counselors also serve as unit representatives for the Employer Support of Guard and Reserve; education, bonus and incentive programs; and they assist with unit family programs.

The five battalion career counselors in the Nevada Army Guard are:

- **991st Troop Command**
Sgt. 1st Class Carmen Montes
(775) 971-6052
carmen.montes1@us.army.mil
- **992nd Troop Command**
Staff Sgt. Christina Brandenburg
(702) 856-4834
c.brandenburg@us.army.mil
- **1/221st Armored Cavalry**
Staff Sgt. Kamran Khan
(702) 632-0546
kamran.khan@us.army.mil
- **422nd Expeditionary Signal Battalion**
Sgt. 1st Class David Sousa
(775) 971-6010
david.sousa@us.army.mil
- **Independent Units**
Staff Sgt. Ines Ventura
(702) 632-4313
Ines.ventura@us.army.mil

In addition to his employment as a career counselor, Sgt. 1st Class Sousa works tirelessly for the Veterans of Foreign Wars Silver State Post 3396. That post donated more than \$3,500 to Nevada National Guardsmen last year.

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ROTC thriving at UNLV

Story and photos by Staff Sgt. Frank Marquez
106th Public Affairs Detachment

LAS VEGAS – Continuing a tradition, 58 cadets in the Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, took to the Paradise Campus athletic field on Dec. 5 to square off in a competition that would earn bragging rights for one top platoon.

Exercises in physical skill and teamwork determined the outcome. Cadets kept score with a grease pencil on a white board, tallying who finished first in push-ups, pull-ups and wheelbarrow racing. In the end, all of the soldiers raised their hands in triumph and shouted their motto, "Rebel Strong, Hooah!"

Two of the participants in the competition received their commissions on Dec. 16, the culmination of four years of military studies and physical training. To put their leadership skills to the test, one will head for the Army Reserves, and the other will wear the bronze bars of a second lieutenant on active duty.

According to Nevada Army Guard Lt. Col. Debee Ann Boyd, the commander of the training program, "One hundred percent of (the graduates) will see combat."

Revived 10 years ago in the region on the College of Southern Nevada campus after an absence since 1991, the ROTC program now thrives on the UNLV campus and is in its seventh year. Of the 61 cadets registered in the program, three earn only credit. The others remain immersed in military life, complete with "PT" every morning.

Boyd said the growing program attributes its success to education benefits. All of the cadets receive a \$300- to \$500-a-month stipend and an ROTC Scholarship that pays for tuition and room and board. Prospective officers may also be eligible for up to \$30,000 in bonuses. For future National Guard officers, the incentives definitely add up.

"The Guard gives them more of a financial benefit for education," said Boyd, who has served as the program's commander for the past eight months. Some of the benefits include the tuition waiver program and reimbursement for text books.

Financial gain is not necessarily the primary draw of the program. Becoming an officer is a position that can't be purchased.

"The most important reason is why I joined – I wanted to be



Cadets Willard Hubler, front, and Lawrence Williams shout their motto, "Rebel Strong, Hooah!" as they do push-ups during the UNLV ROTC Christmas competition on Dec. 5. Williams received his commission on Dec. 13 and will serve in the Medical Service Corps at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. He is a native of Los Angeles, Calif.

able to lead," said Cadet Willard Hubler. "Now I'm able to assess situations, adapt and have the ability to make good choices for my troops."

Hubler, a senior, is set to receive his commission in May 2009. The Las Vegas resident, husband and father of two children, was previously an enlisted soldier in the 72nd Military Police since 2001. He is now ready to become a platoon leader for Nevada Guard's Charlie Company, 422nd Signal Battalion, upon his graduation.

For Cadet Alain Monroy, 22, who aspires to be a general officer one day, ROTC is "the best course you can take." He is set to receive his commission within a year and plans to pursue a career as an Armor officer with the Guard's 1/221st Cavalry. He will attend a leaders training course this summer at Fort Knox, Ky.

"I just wanted structure," Monroy said. "Being involved in this program makes you a better individual. I can't see myself doing anything else."

A similar ROTC program exists at the University of Nevada, Reno.

For information, call (702) 895-0452.



Charlie Company finishes second in food service contest

LAS VEGAS – Spc. Hugh Haugen, left, and Pfc. Amanda Coleman work their magic on a pot of potatoes during the Connelly field kitchen cooking competition on Nov. 8. The soldiers are from the Army National Guard's C Company, 422nd Expeditionary Signal Battalion, that competed in the finals of 41st Annual Philip A. Connelly Excellence in Food Service Competition. In the final results, it was announced on Dec. 19 that Charlie Company finished second in the Army National Guard behind only the 1032nd Transportation Company from the Virginia Army Guard. Photo: Lt. Col. Terry Conder

DROP ZONE

NEVADA



NEAR BATTLE MOUNTAIN – Members of the 1/189th Aviation sling load an F-86 Sabre from the Battle Mountain airport about 180 miles east to the Wendover Airfield and World War II Museum in November. The Sabre was previously moved several years ago with the Nevada Guard's previous cargo helicopter unit flying the CH-54A Skycrane.

Photo: Courtesy of Chief Warrant Officer Sean Laycox



LAS VEGAS – It doesn't happen often, but every once in a great while it snows in Las Vegas. Staff Sgt. Luciana Irenze of the 992nd Troop Command submitted this photo of the Las Vegas Readiness Center and its snow-laden palm trees in the middle of a snow storm Dec. 17.



STEAD – Six UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters from the 1/168th MEDEVAC lift off on their way to their deployment site in Afghanistan. The unit deployed the aircraft with about 60 soldiers Oct. 16 for a year-long mission. Photo: Sgt. Michael Getten

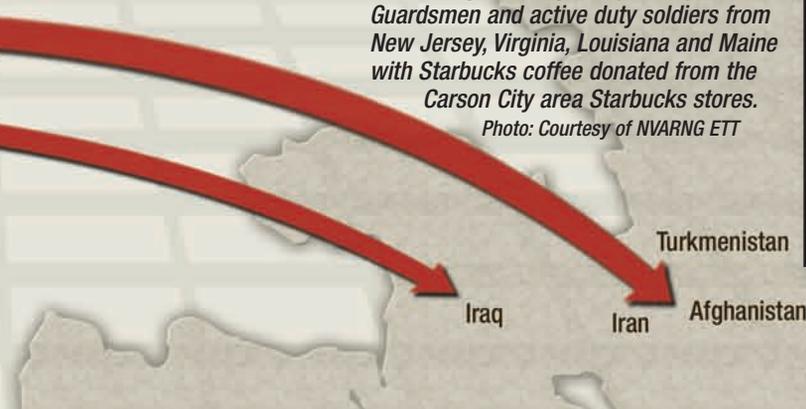


RENO – Staff Sgt. Epifanio Rodarte and Staff Sgt. Kevin Malone of the 1/189th Aviation detach the carrying line from the cargo netting and hand turkeys to members of the Reno Boys and Girls Club during the Salvation Army's 12th annual Operation Turkey Drop Dec. 8 in Reno.

Photo: Sgt. Cheri Cramutolo

AFGHANISTAN – Members of the Nevada Army Guard's Embedded Training Team, who are currently deployed to Afghanistan to train Afghan army and police, pose with Guardsmen and active duty soldiers from New Jersey, Virginia, Louisiana and Maine with Starbucks coffee donated from the Carson City area Starbucks stores.

Photo: Courtesy of NVARNG ETT



MINDEN – Master Sgt. Paul Kinsey, Spc. Rory Townley and Sgt. Aaron Brockway pack boxes to be sent to troops overseas at GE Energy in Minden. Airmen and soldiers packed more than 150 packages totaling 1,500 pounds of snacks, games and music CDs destined for Kyrgyzstan, Iraq and Afghanistan. GE spent more than \$3,500 to ship the goods. Photo: Shannon Litz, Gardnerville Record-Courier



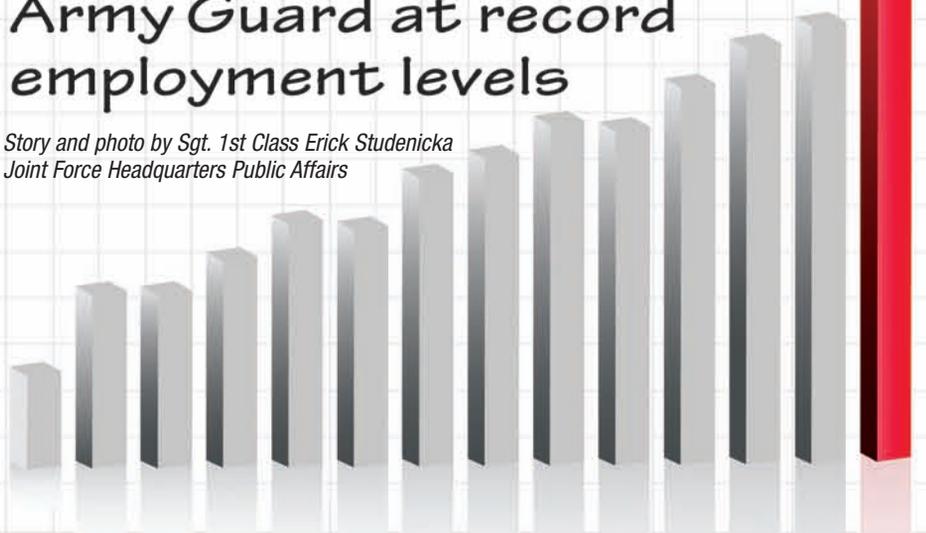
MANAS, KYRGYZSTAN – Airmen of the 152nd Security Forces Squadron were surprised when soldiers of the 1/168th MEDEVAC stopped in at Manas, Kyrgyzstan, on their way to their deployment location in Afghanistan. The 152nd was able to share some briefings and, according to Lt. Col. Mark Hall, the commander of the security forces squadron, "Better yet, we got them some pogeey bait and Christmas decorations. We had just received nine boxes of goodies from the GE volunteers in Minden, so we not only hooked up the Air Guard but the Army Guard as well."

Unable to make it for the group photo, the unofficial mascot of the 152nd Security Forces Squadron, Bob, stood guard in a truck nearby. Photos: Courtesy of Lt. Col. Mark Hall

Recession fails to slow Nevada Guard growth:

Army Guard at record employment levels

Story and photo by Sgt. 1st Class Erick Studenicka
Joint Force Headquarters Public Affairs



The stock market and gross domestic product numbers continue to plummet. Conversely, the unemployment rate and the number of U.S. government bailout loans continue to rise.

All of the statistics and prognosticators, now including the experts at the National Bureau of Economic Research, indicate the nation is in a recession.

But in a curious juxtaposition to the national economy, the Nevada National Guard's economic situation is stable, and it actually experienced one of its largest expansions of full-time job growth during the final quarter of 2008. Much of the growth stemmed from President George W. Bush's signing of the 2009 National Defense Authorization Act on Oct. 14. That act increased the Army National Guard by 3,564 full-time soldiers, the largest Army Guard increase in 22 years.

"We were able to add 37 full-time jobs as a result of that act – that is a 22 percent increase in our full-time manning," said Sgt. Maj. Kelly Cusanelli, the Army Guard's Active Guard and Reserve manager.

The act did not affect the Nevada Air Guard's staffing level directly but, according to the Carson City Nevada Guard human resource office, could lead to an increase in high-ranking enlisted grades (i.e., more E-8 and E-9 positions). The Air Guard also received substantial military construction authorizations that will eventually flow to Nevada and continue to boost the state's economy. (See related article on page 10.)

According to senior personnel sergeant

1st Sgt. Shane Jensen, 15 AGR jobs were available in Nevada on Dec. 18. Jensen said there was no shortage of applicants for vacant jobs and he was receiving an average of five to six packets for each vacancy.

Across the board, Nevada National Guard employment statistics are healthy. At

the close of November, there were a total of 908 full-time AGR and technicians in the Nevada National Guard. That number is a substantial increase compared to the 788 AGRs and technicians the Guard employed in September 2006.

Traditional National Guard employment slots remain poised for continued growth as well. According to the 2008 Nevada National Guard report to Gov. Jim Gibbons, the Nevada National Guard now employs a total of 3,884 soldiers and airmen. That number is up 818 individuals from 2004.

In fact, the Nevada Army Guard now has 2,775 soldiers and ranks No. 2 in the nation in end-strength staffing levels with its 101.7 percent (actual soldiers divided by end-strength goal). Ohio is No. 1 at 101.8 percent.

Officially, the Nevada Army Guard will surpass 3,000 soldiers soon. Two units officially were established in Nevada in December, and a new battalion and brigade are on the horizon.

According to Force Integration Readiness Sgt. Major Mark Rogers, it is official that Fallon will be the home of the new 100-soldier 609th Engineer Co., and Las Vegas will host the 40-soldier 277th Engineer Equipment Support Platoon. The Fallon unit



Sgt. Gary Underhill, front, and Sgt. 1st Class Marell Kemp of the 1864th Transportation Company train in Reno on Dec. 12. With the current addition of two units and a battalion and brigade in the near future, the Nevada Army Guard should avoid the downward employment trend seen across the nation and will soon surpass the 3,000-soldier mark.

will be comprised of combat engineers, commonly known as Sappers.

A new sustainment brigade and the headquarters for a combat service sustainment battalion are also likely to land in Nevada. Those elements would likely add 400 traditional Guard slots to the Army Guard staffing roster.

"There is a very good likelihood we will receive those elements shortly," Rogers said. "Of course the addition of the brigade and battalion would be good in several ways, as they would provide additional upward structure and mobility, and they will require even more AGRs and technicians to maintain their readiness."

Soldiers and airmen interested in full-time jobs can search at nevadaguard.com and click on the human resources button. ■

Studenicka recently experienced a curious juxtaposition of emotion. He was ecstatic the National Guard regional biathlon race was rescheduled; disconsolate that it was reset for northern Minnesota on Super Bowl weekend. (I never should have given that guy a thesaurus. – Editor)

609th newest unit in Nevada Guard

The Nevada Army National Guard officially received its newest unit on Dec. 1 when the 609th Engineer Company, located in Fallon, received its permanent orders. The unit will include about 100 combat engineers, often called Sappers (stemming from the French word for an engineering soldier "Sapeur"). The first sergeant of the unit will be Shane Jensen, seen here earning his wings at parachute jump school last fall. For information on the unit, call Jensen at (775) 848-0219.



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Nevada Air National Guard base hangar receives face-lift

By Capt. Melissa Buschette
Joint Force Headquarters Public Affairs

RENO – By the holiday season of 2009, Nevada Guard airmen are likely to be operating out of a refurbished hangar for their C-130 aircraft. Construction on the \$10 million project began in August and is set to be completed in November 2009.

Now working across the base in a variety of buildings, the 152nd Maintenance Group continues to work diligently. The airmen are doing everything they can to keep the aircraft fully functional and mission ready during this time of transition.

In addition to logistical impacts created by the temporary workspace environments, the construction has affected the unit's ability to provide worldwide mission support. Certain maintenance inspections have been moved to the fuel cell building on base and inevitably reduced the amount of time the fuel cell has to perform fuel system repairs on the C-130s. This is imperative, because aircraft without fully functional fuel systems are restricted from flying overseas.

Several problems with heating, ventilation, asbestos and sub-par workspace areas led to the need for a refurbished facility. The hangar is more than 50 years old and was



A contractor progresses with construction on the hangar. The building is set to be completed in November 2009. Photos: Senior Master Sgt. Brad Kenealy

designed to accommodate small fighter jets.

"We are the world's finest airlift organization and need to accommodate C-130 aircraft," said Lt. Col. John Week, the 152nd Maintenance Squadron commander.

This newly remodeled hangar will allow the 152nd Maintenance Group to provide the quality aircraft maintenance required to provide world-class airpower through the 21st century. Renovations will allow the consolidation of many shops under one roof and offer a safer working environment for the aircraft mechanics.

One change is likely to cause some

discussion. No longer will people be greeted with the "Nevada Air National Guard" marquee as they fly into or out of the Reno-Tahoe International Airport. The familiar part of the building will become the new, main entrance sporting a modern design.

For more than 50 years, the hangar has housed a wide variety of aircraft. From 1965-1975, the structure supported the RF-101 Voodoo. In 1975, the Nevada Air Guard became the home of the RF-4C Phantom II fleet. The Phantom fleet was replaced in 1995 by the current C-130 Hercules. ■



Construction began in the fall on the 152nd Airlift Wing hangar remodel project.

Top Nevada soldiers, airmen distinguish themselves

Story and photo by Spc. Rob Honeycutt
106th Public Affairs Detachment

LAS VEGAS – Spc. Ryan Wagner, Sgt. Samuel England and 1st Sgt. Robert Boldry emerged as the top competitors in the Nevada National Guard Soldier of the Year competitions here Oct. 16-19 at the Clark County Armory. Wagner was named top soldier, England was the best sergeant, and Boldry garnered the First Sergeant of the Year award.

Wagner, 26, is from Sparks; England, 23, resides in Washoe Valley; and Boldry, 43, lives in Carson City. Wagner and Boldry are both in the 485th Military Police Company headquartered in Fallon, and England's unit is L Troop, 1/221st Cavalry in Yerington.

What was once a simple board to determine the top soldiers in the state is now a full-blown competition. "Before, we used to do just an appearance board; now it is more of a competition," said Command Sgt. Maj. Jarod Kopacki, commandant for the Regional Training Institute.

Both soldiers and noncommissioned officers competed in a series of events including weapons qualifications, land navigation courses and a series of combat skills. The competitors also answered military questions before a board. Each of the tasks was worth a designated number of points that were added to determine the winner.

"It was definitely a very tough competition," said Sgt. Jeff Dooley of the Medical Detachment. "There were a lot of worthy people participating in the competition."

The competition began with a physical fitness test in the early morning. Then the soldiers drew weapons and moved to the range for weapons qualifications. Soldiers then traveled to Mount Charleston for day and night land navigation courses. After arriving at the armory, soldiers completed a five-mile road march before preparing for their board appearance.

Finally, the competitors moved to an awards ceremony where the winners were announced later that night.

The competition is a chance for the soldiers to represent their units and display their skills.

"I've never pushed myself physically and mentally so much in my entire life," said Sgt. Rachel Mira of the 422nd Signal Battalion. "I think the competition was the ultimate way to test your capabilities and



Sgt. Jeff Dooley of the Nevada Army Guard Medical Detachment competes in the medical evacuation portion of the Soldier of the Year competition in Las Vegas. Soldiers from across the state represented their units and displayed their skills during the competition.

your belief in yourself, to see how far you could push your own limit."

Kopacki said the competition combined several skills that all soldiers should have.

"You've got to be smart, athletic, technical and competent," Kopacki said. "Everything we were doing involved basic soldiering skills."

Air Guard announces Airmen of the Year awards

Command Chief Master Sgt. John Ternau announced the Nevada Air Guard's Airmen of the Year winners for 2008 in December. The finalists consisted of the quarterly winners from 2008.

The Airmen of the Year selections for 2008 included:

- **Master Sgt. Thomas Quaranta**
152nd Logistics Readiness Squadron
Senior Noncommissioned Officer of the Year
- **Tech. Sgt. Jordan Clark**
92nd Civil Support Team
Noncommissioned Officer of the Year

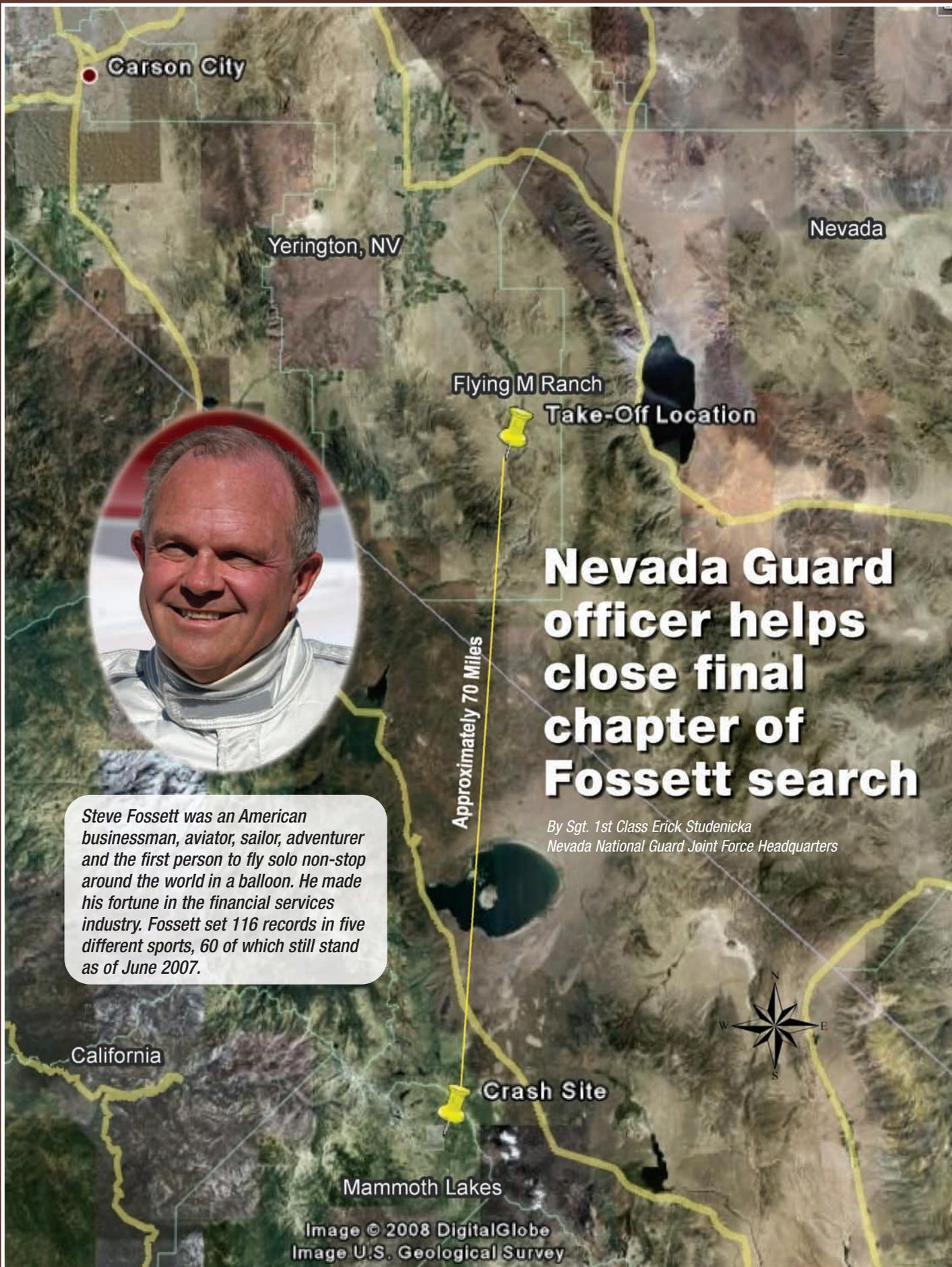
- **Senior Airman Timothy Buxton**
152nd Intelligence Squadron
Airman of the Year

The Nevada airmen will now compete nationally for the National Guard Bureau's Airman of the Year award. National Guard Bureau winners then go on to compete in the Air Force's "12 Outstanding Airmen" contest.

Quaranta, widely known as Sgt. Q., was modest about his win. "I just do my job regardless and I always give 110 percent," Quaranta said. Although Quaranta is excited about the award and the possibility of becoming one of the 12 Outstanding Airmen, he is more interested in the well-being of his fellow service members and friends.

"I'm a simple person – compassionate, patient, not big on accolades," Quaranta said. "Everything in life happens for a reason, and I feel it's my job in life to give all I can to the United States of America and the citizens of Nevada." ■

Capt. Melissa Buschette contributed to this report.



Carson City

Yerington, NV

Nevada

Flying M Ranch
Take-Off Location



Nevada Guard officer helps close final chapter of Fossett search

Steve Fossett was an American businessman, aviator, sailor, adventurer and the first person to fly solo non-stop around the world in a balloon. He made his fortune in the financial services industry. Fossett set 116 records in five different sports, 60 of which still stand as of June 2007.

*By Sgt. 1st Class Erick Studenicka
Nevada National Guard Joint Force Headquarters*

Approximately 70 Miles

California

Crash Site

Mammoth Lakes

Image © 2008 DigitalGlobe
Image U.S. Geological Survey

MAMMOTH LAKES, Calif. – In September 2007, everybody associated with the search for famed aviator-adventurer Steve Fossett figured it would be a Nevada Guardsman who would locate the larger-than-life character – dead or alive. Either a Nevada Army Guard helicopter pilot or a Nevada Air Guard imagery analyst would finally catch a glimpse of Fossett’s downed Bellanca Super Decathlon stunt plane and answer the questions surrounding the whereabouts of Fossett.

More than one year later, though, it was a Nevada Army Guard medical services officer on foot, 1st Lt. Natalie Morrow, who finally helped solve the mystery surrounding the disappearance of Fossett.

One day after her husband, Preston Morrow, found Fossett’s identification near abandoned Mineret Mine, Natalie Morrow found a black sweatshirt deep in the Inyo National Forest on Sept. 30 that likely had been worn by Fossett.

On Oct. 30, investigators making a final search near the area where the sweatshirt was discovered found some human bones. On Nov. 4, the mystery was solved for good when Madera County Sheriff John Anderson confirmed through DNA testing that the remains were of Steve Fossett. Other items discovered about half a mile from the place where the wreck of Fossett’s small plane was found included his Illinois driver’s license, credit cards and a pair of athletic shoes.

“It was just a matter of luck; it was just the right place, and we happened to be there,” Natalie said on Oct. 20. “It was a wide area to search, around Yerington and eastern California. It was one of those things – when you have debris scattered and demolished as much as it was – it was going to be hard to find.”

Natalie Morrow found a black Nautica brand sweatshirt. Officials said that is not the technical type of clothing they usually expect to find deep in the backcountry.

Natalie, 36, is a medical services officer with the Nevada Army Guard’s medical detachment headquartered in Reno. In her civilian occupation, Morrow is a fire captain with the Mammoth Lakes Fire Department. Natalie and Preston Morrow have lived in Mammoth Lakes for 16 years. She enlisted in the Nevada Army Guard in 2002 and graduated from Officer Candidate School in 2003.

Natalie deflected the credit for the discovery to Preston, 43, a manager at



While at the Mineret Overlook in California’s Inyo National Forest backcountry on Oct. 20, 2008, 1st Lt. Natalie Morrow of the Nevada Army National Guard discusses how she and her husband, Preston, discovered items associated with Steve Fossett’s downed aircraft. A positive DNA identification of Fossett’s remains was confirmed Nov. 4, 2008, solving the mystery of the famed aviator-adventurer. Photo: Sgt. 1st Class Erick Studenicka

Kittredge Sports Shop in Mammoth, during an interview in late October. If not for a late start on his hike on Sept. 29, it’s unlikely Preston would have intersected the wreckage. He had wanted to begin his hike with his dog Kona from the Mineret Lake trail head in the morning but did not start until 12:30 p.m.

“I had been on the trail for 4-5 miles and had the goal of reaching Mineret Mine,” Preston said. “Then it got late and I reached the decision I wasn’t going to make it to the mine if I wanted to get back to the car by dark.

“So I went off trail to get a nice view of the area at about 10,000 feet. Then I went on a beeline back down and that’s when I found the stuff. I was off-trail, that was the key. If it had been on a trail, it would have been spotted by backpackers and hikers.”

What Preston had found was the identification for James Steve Fossett and \$1,005 in cash. The next day, Preston and Natalie returned with a wildlife specialist and a

videographer to get the exact GPS coordinates. That’s when Natalie discovered the black sweatshirt.

The Morrows dispelled some common beliefs surrounding their discovery. They said officials would not specially notify them should the DNA tests confirm that they discovered Fossett’s final resting place, and they said they knew of no reward associated with the find.

Natalie Morrow said it was a surreal feeling to realize they had discovered the clues to the famous mystery.

“I told Preston ‘I can’t believe you stumbled upon this,’” Natalie said. “It’s an amazing occurrence, considering all the man-hours spent during the search process – and then he stumbles upon the ID card and the money during a hike.”

The aircraft wreckage was found approximately 65 miles due south of the Flying M Ranch near Yerington, Nev., where Fossett’s flight originated on Labor Day in 2007. Yerington is approximately 70 miles southeast of Reno. ■



GUARD GOING (not just Army) GREEN

Reduce, reuse, recycle: the new buzz words in Nevada

Article and photos by Capt. Melissa Buschette
Joint Force Headquarters Public Affairs

CARSON CITY – The Nevada National Guard is leading the way in the military's effort to go green. Environmentally friendly and energy saving programs are underway and continue to develop statewide.

Guided by ISO 14001 (an international specification for environmental standards) and the Nevada Army Guard's Environmental Management System, the Nevada Guard is implementing the adjutant general's environmental policy by mandating recycling programs, building a wind and solar test bed at Joint Force Headquarters and developing a road map for solar energy production.

As a result of the Las Vegas Readiness Center's recycling program, more than 50 percent of consumable waste is now being recycled at that site. Under the direction of Master Sgt. Kevin Pearson, the center reduced its Republic Services garbage bill from \$500 to \$280 per month.

In addition to consumable waste recycling, the Air Guard's 152nd Aerospace Ground Equipment shop in Reno has acquired a new charger for its equipment batteries. The Optima batteries used in equipment on base are the non-spill type. Non-hazardous batteries are paramount when the equipment is shipped to locations worldwide.

The shop's new battery charger not only extends the life of the batteries, but is capable of reconditioning them as well. Old batteries that would normally have been replaced can now be reconditioned and reused. With this charger, the AGE shop has reduced its annual battery use from 12-15 to 6-7.

A future goal for the recycling program is to expand the effort statewide and eventually reach all TAG-mandated recycling goals.

The metal shop at the Air Guard base is in the process of procuring an environmentally-friendly paint gun cleaner that significantly reduces the amount of liquid paint waste.

Currently, annual paint waste on base exceeds 250 pounds. By using the new IT-200, the base will likely decrease that number to less than 75 pounds per year.



Chief Warrant Officer Jim Groth aligns an inverter to be affixed to a subpanel in the maintenance shop in the OTAG building in Carson City where the wind and solar test bed will be housed.

Plans to develop innovative ways to produce and use renewable energy are making their way to the Office of The Adjutant General as well. The renewable energy action team at Joint Force Headquarters in Carson City is currently constructing a wind and solar test bed.

The test bed is a system that operates the maintenance shop lighting solely by renewable energy. With the system in place, there will be no need for outside utility electricity and the monthly energy bill will be reduced by \$190.

The project consists of a 3,500-watt system of electrical generation produced by a wind turbine generator, four solar photovoltaic panels, wiring, electrical sub-panels and an inverter (AC to DC power conversion).

"If designed and approved, these could be among the largest construction projects ever developed by the Nevada Guard."

— Chief Warrant Officer Jim Groth

It will include a system of 11 lead-acid batteries for power storage. Soldiers will also be able to monitor the system from their desktops via state-of-the-art remote monitoring software.

The system will eventually power the entire maintenance shop solely by wind and solar systems.

The independent OTAG project will also be a nexus for the community. Students from the University of Nevada, Reno, local schools, and commercial and residential developers will be able to visit the site and study the system.

All construction will be completed by the Nevada Army National Guard maintenance and energy management teams. The state-funded facility used monies from its state operating budget to purchase materials for the turn-key laboratory.

The Nevada Guard is also pursuing the development of large, renewable energy projects that could produce the majority of electrical power consumed by the Guard statewide.

Nevada Guard officials recently examined the newly completed Nellis Air Force Base solar project and the Construction and Facilities Management Environmental Office continues to explore the use of outside



Jeremy Kinney, left, and J. B. Thompson carry one of the two solar panels set to be installed outside the maintenance shop at the OTAG building on Dec. 18 in Carson City. The panels are for use with the wind and solar test bed.

private renewable energy development at Nevada Guard sites and facilities.

"Rarely does an opportunity present itself where the environment, the military and the taxpayer could benefit so greatly, as in the Nellis model power purchase agreements," said Chief Warrant Officer Jim Groth of the CFMO's environmental protection section.

"If designed and approved, these could be among the largest construction projects ever developed by the Nevada Guard," said Groth.

There is also a possibility of employing inmates in the Department of Corrections work program. Inmate participation in the program would provide inmates with real-world skills for their use upon release and assist in their rehabilitation.

The ultimate goal of the Nevada Guard is a reduction in utility expenditures through receipt of discounted, renewable power. The Nevada Guard promises to be among

the military's leaders in forward-thinking, renewable energy programs.

The local OTAG renewable test bed project installation will continue through late winter and as of press time, the test bed start-up was projected to begin Jan. 30.

Groth said Adjutant General Maj. Gen. Cindy Kirkland wants to emphasize the Nevada Guard's environmental programs and seize renewable-energy opportunities in a timely manner. In a recent meeting, she urged the state's renewable energy action team to quickly pursue other potential energy-saving measures and systems for the OTAG facility, Army buildings throughout the state and the air base sites in Reno and Indian Springs. ■

Buschette was unsure how she would be welcomed in Nevada after transferring from the North Dakota Guard. She received her answer when she was sent to Iraq after only her second drill weekend.

Calderon now equal parts citizen, soldier

By Capt. Patrick Walsh, 140th Military Police Det.

IRAQ – On the same day a record number of Americans were exercising their right to vote, Nevada Army National Guard Staff Sgt. Omar “Alex” Calderon gained his own right to vote on Nov. 4 when he became a United States citizen in Baghdad, Iraq.

Calderon was one of 186 U.S. military members from across Iraq who became American citizens in a ceremony at the Al Faw Palace on Camp Victory on Election Day. Calderon serves as the administrative sergeant with the 140th Military Police Brigade Liaison Detachment currently deployed in Iraq.

Gen. Raymond Odierno, the multinational forces commanding general, presided over the ceremony and praised the commitment of the new citizens.

“Diverse as your backgrounds may be, you all now have one thing in common – you are all Americans,” Odierno said. “You



Staff Sgt. Alex Calderon poses in front of the flags at Al Faw Palace in Baghdad Nov. 4 shortly after becoming a U.S. citizen. Photo: Courtesy of Capt. Patrick Walsh

represent the very best of all that our nation stands for: freedom, opportunity, equality and service.”

The new citizens came from more than 60 countries and every branch of the U.S. military. Many of the supporters watching the ceremony became emotional. “It was a wonderful ceremony. It was great to see so many people who are currently defending the United States become citizens,” said Sgt. Emily Ghoslin, a U.S. Army Reserve Soldier who was attached to the 140th for this deployment. “It really makes you proud to be an American.”

This was the 12th citizenship ceremony of its kind in Iraq, but it took on special meaning for the members of the 140th MPs with one of its sergeants taking the oath of citizenship.

“Calderon has been working on becoming a citizen for almost a year,” said Master Sgt. Ronald Morse of the 140th. “This deployment actually set him back, because his paperwork was stuck in the United States while he was serving here in Iraq. He had to overcome several obstacles and even

enlisted the help of Nevada congressmen and senators to get this accomplished. We are all proud to serve with him and call him a fellow citizen.”

Calderon currently works for Task Force 134, the joint task force responsible for all detention operations in Iraq. The Task Force 134 Commander, Brig. Gen. David Quantock, also recognized Calderon in a private ceremony with the presentation of the U.S. flag flown over Al Faw Palace at the same time Calderon took the oath of citizenship inside.

Calderon was born in Mexico but raised in Las Vegas, where he graduated from Basic High School. After high school, he enlisted in the Army and served in Germany and at Fort Irwin, Calif. He joined the Nevada Army National Guard in 1999 and served with the 992nd Troop Command before joining the 140th MP Brigade Liaison Team to deploy to Iraq.

In 2007, he graduated with a bachelor’s degree from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, after majoring in U.S. history. ■

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“Diverse as your backgrounds may be, you all now have one thing in common – you are all Americans. You represent the very best of all that our nation stands for: freedom, opportunity, equality and service.” – Gen. Raymond Odierno

NEVADA SOLDIERS AMONG FIRST TO TEST CONVOY SAFETY SYSTEM

By Capt. Melissa Buschette
Joint Force Headquarters Public Affairs

SILVER SPRINGS – Nevada National Guard soldiers were among the first military drivers to experiment with a new convoy safety system here on Nov. 14 during a test session at the Nevada Automotive Test Center. The amazing technology provides nearly autonomous vehicle operation. Twenty-five soldiers from the 593rd Transportation Company and the 1864th Transportation Company participated in the testing.

The U.S. Army Tank Automotive Research, Development and Engineering Center worked with Lockheed Martin to successfully upgrade the military's Convoy Active Safety Technology system. The improved system was put to the test at the test center located near historic Fort Churchill in northwestern Nevada.

The convoy safety system, projected to be fully incorporated into the military within five years, features an automated, robot-controlled capability that promises to decrease driver workload and fatigue while simultaneously increasing situational awareness and reducing vehicle collisions. Rear-end collisions are one of the leading causes of convoy breakdown in theater. The system provides both lateral and longitudinal control of various tactical vehicles relative to a lead vehicle. The overall goal is to improve convoy safety, security, survivability and sustainment.

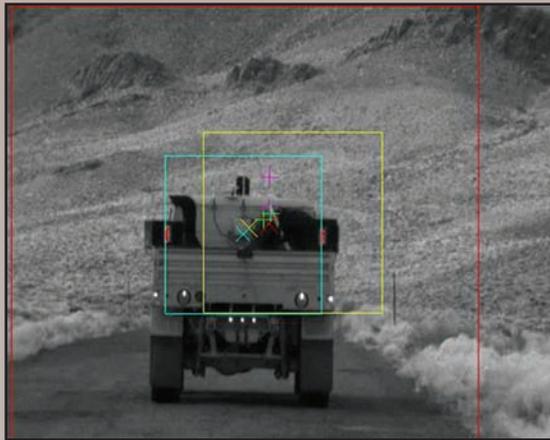
The system's ability to switch from an automatic to manual mode with the push of a button provides a soldier instantaneous manual control of the vehicle.

The system maintains a pre-set distance between vehicles and automatically adjusts vehicle speed. It can also shift gears, maneuver corners and navigate varying terrain.

Although the system is capable of operating completely on its own, it will not replace convoy drivers.

In autonomous mode, the vehicle will avoid or stop if an obstacle suddenly appears and can automatically assume command if the lead vehicle becomes inoperable.

Some system features include single-button operation, obstacle detection and avoidance, limited visibility operations,



The CAST system uses radar, ultra wideband radios, an infra-red sensitive camera and a color camera to maintain a constant line of communication with the lead vehicle.

Photo: Courtesy of U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command



Soldiers of the 593rd and 1864th Transportation Companies demonstrate the limited visibility operation and multi-vehicle convoy capabilities of the CAST system at the automotive test center near Silver Springs, Nev., in November. Photo: Capt. Melissa Buschette

incursion handling and night-vision driving.

"The concept has a lot of potential for reducing rear-end collisions and improving overall safety in a combat situation," said 1st Sgt. Paul Kinsey, the operations sergeant for the Nevada contingent during testing.

The CAST system has made significant advancements since its initial testing at Fort A.P. Hill, Va., in the fall of 2007. Notable improvements since 2007 include a 93 percent reduction in manual control take-overs, a 25 percent increase in operator target awareness, and more than 100 miles of continuous autonomy with a 50 mph-speed capability on paved roads and 35 mph-speed capability on dirt roads.

The current set of experiments, named Warfighter Experiment II, began Oct. 12 at the Nevada test center. More than 30

TARDEC employees spent five weeks testing CAST on light and medium tactical vehicles and M915 tractors.

The site was chosen because the area resembles southwest Asian terrain. The experiment highlighted Nevada's potential for becoming a prime site for future combat equipment testing.

"We have simulators set up of mission profiles for Iraq and Afghanistan. The center allows for longer distance testing which gives the driver a better feel for system functioning," said Henry Hodges Jr., the president of the NATC. ■

Buschette is a welcome addition to JFHQ public affairs because the office now has its first capable national anthem (and karaoke) singer on staff. Yes, she takes requests.



NATIONAL GUARD PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



Airmen participate in a rite of passage shared by all enlisted blue suiters – the Basic Military Training graduation parade. The parade of about 15 squadrons marks the end of the eight-week training period at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas. Photo: Master Sgt. Ken Wright

FIRST STEPS: Reception, student flight, sustainment program prepare Guardsmen for success

By Capt. Melissa Buschette and Sgt. 1st Class Erick Studenicka
Joint Force Headquarters Public Affairs

If the notion is true that an initial impression eventually formulates a long-lasting opinion, then the Reception Company, Student Flight and Recruit Sustainment Program are the most important units in the Nevada National Guard, and the units' staffs are some of the most vital soldiers and airmen in the state.

These units and their staffs are the first with which a brand-new soldier or airman will interact, so initial experiences in these units will shape a recruit's feelings about the National Guard long before the first drill weekend has concluded.

The following is an overview of programs the Nevada National Guard has established to assist new recruits and guide them on a successful course as they begin their careers in the National Guard.

Army Guard Reception Company

Whether a soldier is a new recruit, an interstate transfer or a transfer from active duty, the Reception Company marks the very first stop for a soldier new to the Nevada Army Guard.

No matter one's status, soldiers attend the Reception Company for only one drill. Soldiers awaiting Initial Active Duty Training (basic training) transfer to the Recruit Sustainment Program after one weekend; experienced interstate and active-duty transfer soldiers join their regular Army Guard units.

At Reception Company, soldiers process their initial military documents, receive uniforms, set up e-mail accounts, and receive briefings from Army Commander Brig. Gen. Frank Gonzales and

Command Sgt. Maj. Stephen Sitton. There are detachments in Las Vegas and Reno.

"We have set up the Reception Company so all soldiers will have a good start in the National Guard," said Sgt. 1st Class Shauna Reese, the northern Reception Company readiness sergeant. "It gives everyone a chance to get their foot in the door."

About 55 soldiers drill with Reception Company each month. In addition to Reese, several traditional Guardsmen as well as recruiting and retention soldiers staff the Reception Company. New soldiers can contact the Reception Company office at (775) 348-5112 for assistance in any topic.

Air Guard Student Flight

Edifying the newest airmen in the Nevada Air National Guard, the Student Flight mentoring program is tailored to foster military education for its recently sworn enlisted members.

New recruits are put through a series of training exercises to prepare them for Air Force Basic Military Training. When these airmen enter basic training, they are more knowledgeable about the intricate workings of the Air Force in comparison to brand-new recruits, and they also have established camaraderie with their new Guard family.

"It's important that new recruits feel they are a part of the unit from the start," said Master Sgt. Clint Dudley, the flight's enlisted advisor who is also a recruiting and retention sergeant. "Their treatment and involvement affects how they see the Nevada Air National Guard as a whole and ultimately affects their retention."

What began in October 2007 as a tool to educate new airmen

has grown into an intricate part of the Air Guard's assimilation process. From learning how to march to learning the Airman's Creed, new enlistees develop skills that will help them during BMT at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas.

"We had a former ROTC student teach us how to march; that proved to be really helpful once we got there (to Lackland)," said Senior Airman Katie Rimbey. Rimbey was one of the first students to complete the program.

The Student Flight program gives Nevada Air National Guardsmen an edge many other airmen do not possess, so that High Rollers enter basic training with leadership skills and insight as to what basic training is all about.

There are some limitations for Student Flight airmen, though. "New enlisted members are restricted from participating in on-the-job training because they lack formal training and security clearances," Dudley said.

The Student Flight program ensures the airmen's drill weekend is productive and educational. Code of conduct training, physical training and core value indoctrination are some of the topics Nevada's airmen cover in the Student Flight.

The flight is run by first sergeants and has a strict curriculum. Each new airman begins his or her drill weekend with a physical training session on Saturday morning. The remainder of the day consists of familiarization classes on topics including finance, family programs and military structure.

This professional development program offers an unprecedented advantage active duty Air Force enlistees do not receive. Instead of going straight from a recruiting station to basic training, members of the Nevada Air National Guard Student Flight learn what it means to be a member of today's military even before they don a uniform. For information on the Student Flight, call Dudley at 775-4543.



Airmen in the Student Flight participate in physical training on Saturday mornings of their drill weekends. Photo: Capt. April Conway

Army Guard Recruit Sustainment Program

After an initial drill in the Reception Company, Nevada National Guard soldiers enter the Recruit Sustainment Program and drill with the unit until completion of Advanced Individual Training. Once a soldier completes AIT, they return to the RSP for one final time to participate in a Battle Hand-off ceremony with their permanent unit.

RSP 1st Sgt. Harry House said the unit has one basic goal. "The mission of the Recruit Sustainment Program is to ensure our new soldiers are properly documented, physically fit and mentally prepared to complete basic training," House said.



Sgt. Ryan Davidson (in t-shirt) instructs Recruit Sustainment Program soldiers in the basics of combatives at the Washoe County Armory on Dec. 14. Photo: Sgt. 1st Class Erick Studenicka

The RSP, which has detachments in Reno and Las Vegas, closely simulates basic training and includes drill sergeants on its staff. The classroom subjects and physical training closely mirror Army basic training and include drill and ceremony, combat skills, military history and rifle familiarization.

"We want to get these soldiers ready and prepared for basic training," said Sgt. Melissa Hale during a recent combatives session at Washoe County Armory. "We have received some very positive feedback from recent basic training graduates that the RSP is a great foundation for basic training."

National Guard Bureau statistics reflect the success of the Nevada RSP program. According to House, 97.3 percent of Nevada soldiers who ship for basic training go on to complete AIT and eventually report to their permanent unit. Also, Nevada ranks No. 1 in the entire Army National Guard in terms of RSP soldiers who show up for drill. Each month, 99 percent of soldiers scheduled to attend the Nevada RSP show up for drill – an attendance rate every other unit in the state would envy.

Few realize there are nearly 400 soldiers in Nevada in the RSP "pipeline," covering the time period after Reception Company through the Battle Hand-off. Although most soldiers are in the RSP for only a few months, some who opt for basic training one summer and AIT the next year may spend nearly two years in the RSP unit.

The evolution of the RSP began in 1999 when the unit was known as the Split Option Training Company and provided a home unit for soldiers between basic training and AIT. In the past decade, the unit has had other names including the Basic Training Orientation Company and the Recruit Holding Program, featuring staff from both recruiting and retention and the Regional Training Institute.

Today, the RSP has its own staff, complete with five full-time readiness sergeants and 15 traditional Guard soldiers in addition to seven recruiting soldiers who assist the program.

The RSP continues to look for top soldiers who wish to become drill sergeants. Selected soldiers will attend drill sergeant school. Call House at (775) 884-8436 for information on becoming a drill sergeant or the RSP program. ■

This is the first in a series of articles that examines the programs and organizations that assist and guide Guardsmen throughout their careers. Next issue: Junior Enlisted Council.

SPORTS NEWS

Air Guard hoops team one game short of championship

By Capt. Melissa Buschette, Joint Force Headquarters Public Affairs, and Staff Reports

SPARKS – In arguably the most compelling run through a basketball tournament since the University of Nevada, Reno, reached the Sweet Sixteen in 2004, the Nevada Air National Guard basketball team unexpectedly reached the semifinals of the Sparks Recreational League and came up just one game short of the championship, finally losing to the ironically named High Rollers 78-70 on Dec. 17.

After earning its way into the semifinal game by beating one of the top seeds, Parsons Walls, on Dec. 11, the Air National Guard team entered the league's semifinal as an underdog. The unexpected win by the Air Guard over Parsons Walls made the team the talk of the league during the final week of the season.

In the first two minutes of what would be their final game, the Air Guard lit up the board with an immediate 3-point shot by Tech Sgt. Shay Gilliam. Maj. Kyle Cerfoglio extended the lead going with a subsequent lay-up.

But with 9 minutes, 46 seconds left in the first half, the other

High Rollers took the lead. One of the biggest challenges the Air Guard faced with its opponent was that the High Rollers had an unstoppable 6-foot-6-inch player with college experience.

Multiple turnovers left the Air Guard down by three points at the end of the first half.

The team's starting five – Cerfoglio, Gilliam, Staff Sgt. Aaron Washington, Ron Gomes and Ed Macias – all hit key baskets to keep the game close, but they lacked the height to match the High Rollers. The Air Guard lost altitude midway through the second half and struggled to put points on the board.

As the clock ticked down, the Air Guard found itself with a 12-point spread. The team pulled together and scored seven more points; however, that wasn't enough to overcome the High Rollers and secure a win.

"Overall, I'm proud of how hard everyone played," Gilliam said. "Everyone showed tons of heart in the face of some serious odds."

The apex of the tournament for the Air Guard was its 53-51 win over Parsons in the opening game of the tournament. Parsons entered the game the No. 2 seed in the league with its 6-2 regular season record while the Air Guard entered the contest with a 2-6 record and the No. 7 seed.

"We hadn't played that well together all season," Gilliam said about the first-round win. "We definitely had our break-downs at times, but came through in the end. We found our hot shooters and did a good job on the boards for rebounds."

Gilliam scored 20 points against Parsons. Other top scorers for the Air Guard were Cerfoglio with 18 points and Frank Zuniga with 18 points.

"Everyone showed tons of heart in the face of some serious odds."

– Tech Sgt. Shay Gilliam



RIGHT: Staff Sgt. Frank Zuniga of the Nevada Air Guard hoops team goes up for a basket against Parsons Walls on Dec. 11 in Sparks. The team came within one game of reaching the league championship game.

TOP: Master Sgt. Luis Loe goes up for a hook shot in the semi-final game.



Grappling with success: Nevada soldiers win medals in combatives

Interest in the sports of grappling and combatives continues to grow in the Nevada National Guard, and the results are beginning to reflect the hard work Nevada's soldiers and airmen are putting into the activity.

At Fort Benning, Ga., in October, more than 280 soldiers from all Army components competed in the fourth annual U.S. Army Combatives Championship, including three Nevada Army Guard soldiers. The Nevada team consisted of Sgt. Ryan Davidson, Sgt. Donald Goodballet, and Sgt. Mathew Fenn. The team ended the competition with a 2-4 record in individual matches.

This year's competition drew competitors from Guam, Korea, Alaska and Iraq. Soldiers from Fort Riley, Kan., and Fort Lewis, Wash., tied for first place in the team category. A Fort Benning soldier, Staff Sgt. Brandon Sayles, of 3rd Squadron, 1st Cavalry Regiment, took first in the heavyweight category.

Fort Bragg, N.C., claimed three winners, and Fort Sill, Okla., Fort Lewis, Wash., and Fort Stewart, Ga., each took home a first place.

The double elimination tournament featured three sets of rules: basic, standard, and advanced. Basic and standard rules are fought in the ACU uniform with all name tapes and patches removed. Basic rules include Brazilian Jiu-jitsu grappling where no strikes of any kind are authorized, but submissions are allowed. Standard rules incorporate striking with open-hand slaps to the face, closed fists to the body, and leg strikes with shin-pads. Advanced rules feature four-ounce gloves, and competitors wear the Army physical training uniform with groin protection. Advanced rules allow all forms of strikes except for elbow strikes and knees to the head or face.

For information on the Nevada National Guard team, call Davidson at (775) 884-8583.

In Las Vegas in October, Sgt. Joseph Giglio of the Nevada National Guard's 92nd Civil Support Team scored the unit's first division victory at the North American Grappling Association. Giglio controlled his opponent while lying on his back and set up a choke that caused his opponent to submit. Giglio is a level two Modern Army Combatives instructor.

Staff Sgt. Matthew Shilk also had a strong showing at the NAGA tournament. He fought four different opponents on the same day. Shilk is also a level two combatives instructor and is set to attend level three instructor training at Ft. Benning, Ga.



Sgt. Joseph Giglio of the Nevada National Guard's 92nd Civil Support Team scored the unit's first weight division victory on Oct. 4 at the North American Grappling Association tournament in Las Vegas.



Sgt. Ryan Davidson, left, of the Recruiting and Retention unit competes in the fourth annual U.S. Army Combatives Championship Oct. 4 at Fort Benning, Ga. The Nevada National Guard team finished with a 2-4 record. Photo: Courtesy of Sgt. Ryan Davidson

The 92nd Civil Support Team is an active duty unit composed of Army and Air National Guard service members. Its mission is to support civilian authorities in terrorism or other disaster incidents. The CST works closely with police departments, the FBI, the EPA, the Secret Service and other state, local, and federal agencies. Missions have included support at NASCAR races, Presidential candidate debates, New Year's Eve celebrations and investigations of potentially dangerous packages.

The 92nd CST was established four years ago in Las Vegas and CST members have been competing regularly, and improving steadily, since NAGA tournaments began there.

The grapplers said the team effort led to its strong showing at NAGA. "I am very grateful for the help I received from my unit. The others worked with me at 5 a.m. each day before physical training," Giglio said. "I couldn't have done it without all their help."

Capt. John Lyle won an internal unit tournament earlier this year.

For information on the CST grappling program, call 1st Sgt. David Pectol at (702) 643-4285.

Battle Born football team reaches playoffs

The Nevada National Guard Battle Born flag football team in Las Vegas finished the season 5-5 but lost in the first round of the playoffs to Discount Tire, 13-12. According to manager 1st Lt. Richard Jordan, the team will take a break from the spring season due to the number of expected deployments.

Air Guard makes the grade; 34 receive excellent marks

The results of the Nevada Air Guard's Operational Readiness Exercise were announced by officials in November. Of the 95 unit types graded, two received an "outstanding" and 34 received an "excellent." These ratings combined to give the 152nd Airlift Wing an overall score of "satisfactory." The inspector general team recognized the wing's top performers by coining 22 individuals for their exemplary performance.

In a recent High Roller newsletter, Col. Gary Turner thanked all airmen for their participation. His excerpted comments included, "The entire wing team is required for numerous roles – from the initial response phase to the final return reception. Also, thank you to state headquarters, the 152nd Intelligence and 232nd Operations Squadrons for providing personnel to help in the Operational Readiness Inspection.

"I had a front-row seat for the entire ORI that included daily briefings from senior leadership of the Air Mobility Command Inspection Team. Overall, the results were always outstanding. I wholeheartedly agree with the AMC IG team. The final written results were based on subjective input by a few of their team. The daily out-briefs were based on objective observation by all the IG team.

"Everyone in the 152nd AW should be proud of their exceptional performance. Congratulations go out to the long list of outstanding performers, as well as the superior overall performance of the entire unit. I'm definitely proud to represent this remarkable team."

Military wi-fi installed at three armories

Wireless Internet for military laptop computers is now available on the drill hall floors at the Plumb Lane and Washoe County armories as well as the Las Vegas Readiness Center. Individuals with a military laptop should now be able to access the Internet and Army Guard intranet at these points. The new wireless Internet accessibility should expedite soldier readiness programs held at these locations. For information, call the NVARNG help desk at (775) 887-7244.

Nevada ChalleNGe accepting applications for upcoming semesters

Nevada ChalleNGe, a residential youth at-risk program co-sponsored by the National Guard and state funds, is currently seeking male and female applicants, 16-19 years of age, for upcoming semesters. The program, which includes a five-month residential program conducted in a military educational style environment followed by one year of post-residential mentoring, focuses on developing discipline and responsibility to provide graduates the basic educational and social skills needed for future success in life. There is no cost or military obligation to students or families who enroll in Nevada ChalleNGe.

The program targets youth that are at risk of failing to complete their secondary education. Teens enrolled in the program follow a rigorous and challenging daily schedule that includes physical training, academic work and personal development. The program's core curriculum allows many participants to earn their high school diploma or General Education Development diploma, and learn job skills that lead to a career. Statistics show more than 70 percent of the students who complete ChalleNGe also earn their diploma or GED.

Students selected for the program must reside in Nevada, volun-

tarily comply with program regulations, be drug free and be capable of participating in rigorous physical activity. For additional information or to apply, call Tracy Livingston at (702) 375-1445 or Alan Callanan at (775) 857-9429.

TRICARE increases mental health reimbursement rates; offers respite for caregivers

TRICARE has increased mental health reimbursement rates by 5 percent for 24 mental health services. The psychiatric therapeutic procedures impacted by this change include:

- individual psychotherapy, insight oriented, behavior modifying and/or supportive, using verbal techniques provided in an office or other outpatient facility, an inpatient hospital, partial hospital or residential care facility;
- individual psychotherapy, interactive using non-verbal techniques in an office or other outpatient facility, an inpatient hospital, partial hospital or residential care facility.

With the exception of mental health services as listed above, other TRICARE payment rates for providers will continue to stay the same until February 2009. Rates are reviewed semi-annually.

Rates for all procedures by locality can be found at: <http://www.tricare.mil/cmac/>.

In other TRICARE news, TRICARE now offers primary caregivers of Active Duty Service Members a rest, relief and reprieve benefit thanks to section 1633 of the 2008 National Defense Authorization Act.

The respite benefit specifically helps homebound ADSMs who need frequent help from their primary caregiver. "Homebound" members are service members whose conditions or injuries make them unable to leave home without taxing effort. "Frequent" means that service members need more than two interventions during the 8-hour period per day.

To provide the best possible help and respite for caregivers, this benefit will provide a maximum of eight hours of respite per day, five days per week.

For more information about this benefit, visit the TRICARE Web site at <http://www.tricare.mil>.

Nevada Guard leads annual parade

The Nevada National Guard took an active role in the Nevada Day Parade held in Carson City on Nov. 1. Recruiters from the Nevada Army National Guard presented the colors for the yearly event. The annual parade celebrates Nevada's statehood and is held on or near Nevada Day, Oct. 31. The parade is a chance for Nevada residents to show their state pride. This year, the National Guard assisted parade organizers by providing two 5-ton trucks for announcer stations and several 2.5-ton trucks. The Guard also provided a humvee and crew to drive the American Legion in the parade.

Battle Born reader survey continues

Readers of the *Battle Born* magazine may still participate in the publication's reader survey. Simply log into the public Web site at www.nevadaguard.com and click on the button just below the Joint Force Headquarters logo that reads *Battle Born* magazine reader survey. Results of the survey are set to be compiled and revealed in the Spring 2009 issue of *Battle Born*.

Order of the Sword Ceremony includes High Rollers

By Chief Master Sgt. Dan Olsen
Nevada Air Guard Human Resources Advisor

A delegation of Nevada airmen traveled to McGhee Tyson Air National Guard Base in Knoxville, Tenn., in November to witness Lt. Gen. Craig McKinley's induction into the U.S. Air Force's Order of the Sword.

The Order of the Sword is the highest honor and tribute noncommissioned officers can bestow upon an individual.

McKinley was the Air National Guard director at the time and has since been promoted to general. He is now the chief of the National Guard Bureau.

Airmen of the 152nd Airlift Wing, 152nd Intelligence and the 232nd Operations Squadrons attended the Order of the Sword ceremony there and also the enlisted call.

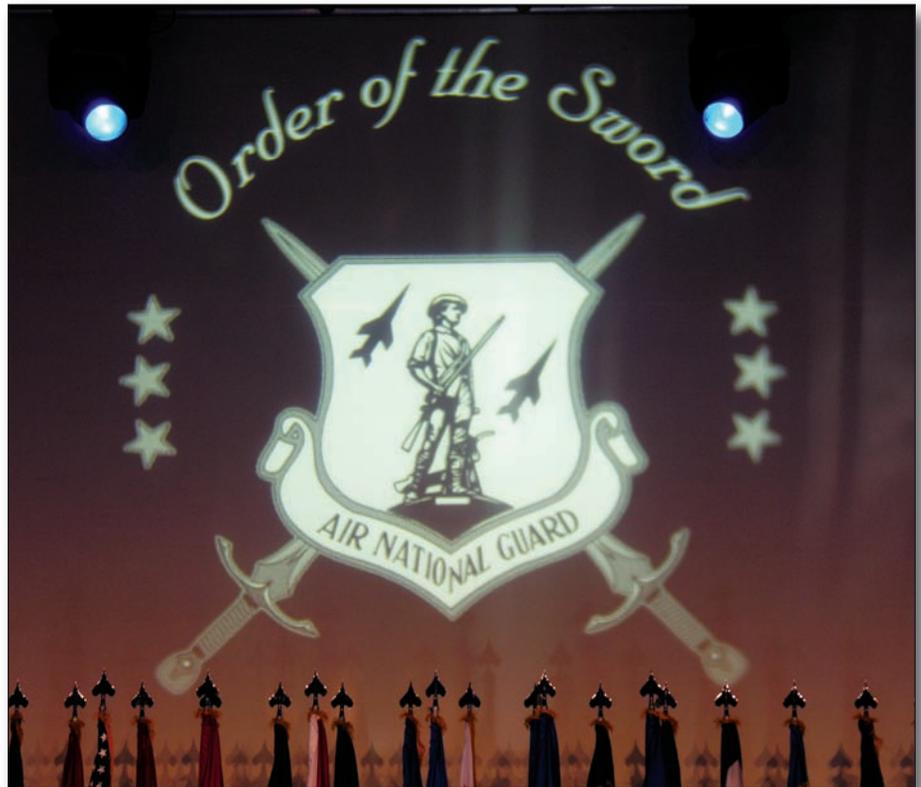
The Order of the Sword is patterned after two orders of chivalry founded during the middle ages in Europe. The British Royal Order of the Sword and the Swedish Military Order of the Sword are both in existence.

Traditionally, a cordon of hundreds of airmen in service dress uniforms line the flight line when the honoree arrives. This year about 450 airmen formed the cordon.

Senior Airman Rachel Thompson of the 232nd said she was honored to have been a part of the ceremony.

"The ceremony itself left us speechless," Thompson said. "It was refreshing to step away from our day-to-day duties and be transported to a world of tradition. I imagined what it might have been like to be a Guardsman 50 years ago."

Some Nevada airmen participated in the ceremony. Honor Guard member Tech. Sgt. Xiomara Young of the 152nd Intelligence Squadron helped carry a 5-foot sword during the ceremony, and Master Sgt. Angela Ash of the 152nd Communications Flight presented a crystal vase to McKinley's wife. ■



Looking for great home financing options for veterans?

If you're a veteran, reservist or still in active military service, you may qualify for a Veterans Administration (VA) loan with MetLife Home Loans. These loans often require no down payment* and offer lower closing costs. Other options include 100% financing, fixed- and adjustable-rate loan terms and eligibility for a variety of property types, including townhomes and condos. For more information about our VA home financing options, call me today.



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LENDER 10164



AWARDS • PROMOTIONS • RETIREMENTS

Moving Up and Moving On • September, October, November 2008

AWARDS

Meritorious Service Medal



MSG Corbin Vannest 421st RTI
 SFC Vaughn Amoroso HHC, 422nd Sig Bn
 CPT Karsten Hall HHC, 422nd Sig Bn
 SGM Kelly Cusanelli HHC, 422nd Sig Bn
 SGT David Forsyth HHC, 422nd Sig Bn
 SFC Duane Engstrom HHC, 422nd Sig Bn

Air Guard graduates six with associate degrees



Six High Rollers earned associate degrees last fall from the Community College of the Air Force. The college is one of several federally chartered degree-granting institutions, but it is the only two-year institution exclusively serving enlisted personnel. The college offers nearly 2,100 mission-related courses, and 5,700 instructors teach CCAF courses at affiliated schools worldwide.

Nevada Air Guard graduates with associate degrees:

- **Staff Sgt. David Colburn**
232nd Operations Sqdn
Electronic Systems Technology
- **Master Sgt. Michael Delsoldato**
152nd Security Forces Sqdn
Criminal Justice
- **Staff Sgt. Gina McCarthy**
152nd Communications Flight
Information Management
- **Master Sgt. Ryan Service**
152nd Logistics Readiness Sqdn
Logistics
- **1st Sgt. Michael Sumersille**
152nd Intelligence Sqdn
Human Resources Management
- **Staff Sgt. Tiffany Tatum**
152nd Airlift Wing
Financial Management

The CCAF has awarded 326,471 associate in applied science degrees since April 1977.

MSG Richard Lee HHC, 422nd Sig Bn
 1SG Robert Boldry 485th Military Police Co
 MSG Scott Brown HHT, 1/221st Cavalry
 MAJ Joyce Anacker NVARNG Medical Det
 SFC Joshua Lappin NVARNG Rec/Ret
 SSG Mark McAllister NVARNG Rec/Ret
 SFC Brandon Stevens NVARNG Rec/Ret
 MSG Michael Hale NVARNG Rec/Ret
 CPT Gene Dieters NVARNG Rec/Ret
 MSG Thomas Lima NVARNG Rec/Ret
 CSM Robert Reid NVARNG Rec/Ret
 MAJ Michael Peyerl NVARNG Rec/Ret
 Maj David Corra 78th Reconnaissance Sqdn
 LtCol Steven Hilsdon 232nd Operations Sqdn
 MSgt Dale Mills 152nd Intel Sqdn
 MSgt Peter Etcheverry 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
 MSgt Tammer Rutherford 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
 SMSgt Mark Pellegrino 152nd Maint Sqdn
 LtCol Edward Locke 92nd Civil Support Team
 MSgt Albert Schilling JFHQ

Air Force Commendation Medal



MSgt Jason Barlow 152nd Intel Sqdn
 MSgt Jason Blancas 152nd Intel Sqdn
 MSgt Jeffery Best 152nd Intel Sqdn
 MSgt Michael Moyer 152nd Intel Sqdn
 TSgt Brice Church 152nd Intel Sqdn
 TSgt Sean Morrison 152nd Intel Sqdn
 MSgt Aaron Borek 152nd Intel Sqdn
 SSgt Beth Torrianni 152nd Medical Group
 SrA Rachel Allen 152nd Medical Group
 SrA Angie Rincon 152nd Medical Group
 SMSgt Gregory Johnson 152nd Medical Group
 MSgt Sam Macaluso 152nd Airlift Wing

Army Commendation Medal



LTC Daniel Walters 1/189th Aviation
 SSG Shaun Weakland 1/189th Aviation
 SGT Steven Watson 1/189th Aviation
 CW2 Edward Sanchez 1/189th Aviation
 SFC Don Gable 1/189th Aviation
 SGT James Cyr 1/189th Aviation
 SPC Hugh Haugen C Co, 422nd Sig Bn
 SGT Mike Nguyen HHC, 422nd Sig Bn
 SGT Yekaterina Klebanova HHC, 422nd Sig Bn
 SFC Daniel Ornelas HHC, 422nd Sig Bn
 CPT Fernando Gomez HHC, 422nd Sig Bn
 CPT Christian Wilson HHC, 422nd Sig Bn
 SFC Dennis Laroocca Jr HHC, 422nd Sig Bn
 1LT Barron Vanmeurs HHC, 422nd Sig Bn
 SPC Ryan Wagner 485th Military Police Co

SGT Katherine Laspina 72nd Military Police Co
 SGT Jake Boholst 92nd CST
 SSG Tanya Leonard 991st Troop Cmd
 SSG Samuel England HHT, 1/221st Cavalry
 SFC John Bogdan HHT, 1/221st Cavalry
 SGT Derrick Fore HHT, 1/221st Cavalry
 CPT Darin Gumucio HHT, 1/221st Cavalry
 SFC Fredy Valladares HHT, 1/221st Cavalry
 SSG Scott Katherman JFHQ
 SFC Bryan Harvey JFHQ
 PFC David Jackson JFHQ
 SSG Joseph Loader JFHQ
 SGT Stephanie King JFHQ
 CPT Harold Woomer Jr. JFHQ
 CPT Daniel Thielen NVARNG Medical Det
 SSG Joseph Feenstra NVARNG Rec/Ret
 SGT Mathew Fenn NVARNG Rec/Ret
 SGT Ryan Davidson NVARNG Rec/Ret
 SFC Rosemarie Fred NVARNG Rec/Ret
 SFC Junior Krows NVARNG Rec/Ret
 SFC Wade Mendenhall NVARNG Rec/Ret
 SSG Joseph Feenstra NVARNG Rec/Ret
 SGT Richard Samson NVARNG Rec/Ret
 SSG Ivan Parsons NVARNG Rec/Ret
 SSG Richard Gilberti II NVARNG Rec/Ret
 SFC Richard Miller NVARNG Rec/Ret
 SSG Terrence Oliveira NVARNG Rec/Ret
 SSG David Eisele NVARNG Rec/Ret
 SSG Ted Ziegenfuss NVARNG Rec/Ret
 SFC Richard Williams NVARNG Rec/Ret
 SSG Marco Irenze NVARNG Rec/Ret
 SSG Edward Benites NVARNG Rec/Ret
 SGT Paul Duncan Jr. NVARNG Rec/Ret
 SFC Jose Obregon NVARNG Rec/Ret
 SGT Melissa Hale NVARNG Rec/Ret
 SFC James Fricano NVARNG Rec/Ret
 SSG Travis Johnson NVARNG Rec/Ret
 SFC Patrick Simmons NVARNG Rec/Ret
 SFC David Ramage NVARNG Rec/Ret
 SGT Mike Nguyen NVARNG Rec/Ret
 SGT Michael Peterson NVARNG Rec/Ret
 SFC Harry House NVARNG Rec/Ret
 MSG Darcy Tiedeman NVARNG Rec/Ret
 SFC James Lathrop NVARNG Rec/Ret

Joint Service Achievement Medal



SFC Erick Studenicka JFHQ

Air Force Achievement Medal



SrA William Boekenoogen 152nd Intel Sqdn
 SrA Anthony Smith 152nd Intel Sqdn

SrA John Connell 152nd Intel Sqdn
 SrA Lewis Dix 152nd Intel Sqdn
 SSgt Nicholaus Jones 152nd Intel Sqdn
 TSgt Greg Evans 152nd Intel Sqdn
 SrA Savannah Morgan 152nd Intel Sqdn
 SrA Rexford Barton 152nd Intel Sqdn
 SrA Jon Cumings 152nd Intel Sqdn
 SrA Sean Ingenluyff 152nd Intel Sqdn
 SSgt Frank Stroik 152nd Intel Sqdn
 MSgt Brandon Trehal 152nd Intel Sqdn
 SrA Anthony Smith 152nd Intel Sqdn
 TSgt Brice Church 152nd Intel Sqdn
 TSgt Sean Morrison 152nd Intel Sqdn
 SrA Savannah Morgan 152nd Intel Sqdn
 MSgt Dale Mills 152nd Intel Sqdn
 SMSgt Craig Madole 152nd Intel Sqdn
 SrA Lewis Dix 152nd Intel Sqdn
 MSgt Aaron Borek 152nd Intel Sqdn
 MSgt Jeffery Best 152nd Intel Sqdn
 SrA Rexford Barton 152nd Intel Sqdn
 MSgt Jason Barlow 152nd Intel Sqdn
 Maj Glenn Gevert 152nd Intel Sqdn
 MSgt Jason Blancas 152nd Intel Sqdn
 TSgt Sean Morrison 152nd Intel Sqdn
 MSgt Dale Mills 152nd Intel Sqdn
 SrA Jon Cumings 152nd Intel Sqdn
 MSgt Michael Moyer 152nd Intel Sqdn
 SMSgt Michael Brown 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn
 TSgt Rafael Chelli 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn
 MSgt Ward Lacy 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn
 SSgt Craig Toole 152nd Security Forces Sqdn
 SSgt Craig Toole 152nd Security Forces Sqdn
 MSgt Michael Delsoldato 152nd Security Forces Sqdn
 SSgt Amy Short 152nd Mission Support Group
 MSgt Douglas Larson 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn

Army Achievement Medal



PFC James Ketelsen 100th Quartermaster Co
 SFC Aric Garza 150th Maint Co
 MSgt Debra Graham 152nd Mission Spt Flt
 SSgt Josh Zumsteg 152nd Mission Spt Flt
 MSgt Brandon Trehal 152nd Intel Sqdn
 SGT Justin Molnar C Co, 422nd Sig Bn
 SFC Daniel Ornelas HHC, 422nd Sig Bn
 SPC Lynette Kruger JFHQ
 SGT Tommy Rodriguez JFHQ
 SGT Elexia Casteel JFHQ
 SPC Dean Johnson NVARNG Medical Det
 PFC Barbara Snow NVARNG Medical Det
 SGT Alexander Drossulis NVARNG Medical Det
 SSG Sandra Flores NVARNG Medical Det
 SPC Mark Gomez NVARNG Medical Det
 SPC Abigail Green NVARNG Medical Det
 SGT Michael Krieger NVARNG Medical Det
 SPC Kimberly Amos NVARNG Medical Det
 SSG Tara Pushkin NVARNG Medical Det
 SPC Derek Ernst NVARNG Rec/Ret
 SFC Kreston Eaton NVARNG Rec/Ret
 SGT Ryan Davidson NVARNG Rec/Ret
 Ms. Racheal Ramirez NVARNG Rec/Ret
 SGT Augustine Reyes NVARNG Rec/Ret
 SGT Che Rios NVARNG Rec/Ret

Nevada State Commendation Medal



Ms. Sharon Powers JFHQ
 Ms. Mary Leaming JFHQ
 SPC Walter Lowell HHT, 1/221st Cavalry
 SPC Michael Flood HHC, 422nd Sig Bn
 SFC Marvin Johnson HHC, 422nd Sig Bn
 SPC Christopher Rosales 485th Military Police Co
 SGT Mayra Serrano 593rd Trans Co
 SPC Garrison Paine 72nd Military Police Co
 SSG Luis Alvarez 72nd Military Police Co
 SSG Anderson Munoz HHT, 1/221st Cavalry
 SFC Oswald Brown HHT, 1/221st Cavalry
 SPC Nicholas Gonzales HHT, 1/221st Cavalry
 SGT Oreana Henry NVARNG Medical Det
 SSG Audrey Bocock NVARNG Medical Det
 SSG Jesse Filsinger NVARNG Medical Det
 SGT Lisa Russell NVARNG Medical Det
 MSG Michael Hale NVARNG Rec/Ret
 SGT Lukas Haaglund NVARNG Rec/Ret
 SGT Thomas Gensinger NVARNG Rec/Ret
 SFC Robert Gates NVARNG Rec/Ret
 Ms. Judy Price Nevada State Lands
 SPC Allison Bailey NVARNG Medical Det

Adjutant General's Outstanding Graduate Award



SFC Yesenia Melendez HHC, 422nd Sig Bn
 SGT Harold Truman HHC, 422nd Sig Bn
 SPC Anthony Liotta 485th Military Police Co
 SSG Timothy Maguire 485th Military Police Co
 SFC Shauna Reese JFHQ
 SFC Jason Miller JFHQ
 SSG Jeremiah Mock JFHQ
 SSG Joshua Montes NVARNG Rec/Ret
 SGT Lukas Haaglund NVARNG Rec/Ret
 SFC Gregory Backus NVARNG Training Site Det

Nevada Humanitarian Service Ribbon



SSG Benjamin Green HHC, 422nd Sig Bn

Nevada Overseas Deployment Ribbon



SMSgt Michael Brown 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn
 SSgt Jennifer Harrell 152nd Mission Support Flt

Nevada Recruiting Ribbon



TSgt Kimberly Bledsaw 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
 SrA Jose Escobar 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
 A1C Jauies Sosa 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
 1stLt John Brownell 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
 Maj Warren Rapp 232nd Operations Sqdn
 SMSgt Victoriana Miller 232nd Operations Sqdn
 MSgt Anthony Midmore 152nd Maint Sqdn

PROMOTIONS

LTC/LtCol

James Walker Joint Force Headquarters
 Shelly Assiff 152nd Mission Support Flt
 James Fleitz 232nd Operations Sqdn

MAJ/Maj

Joshua Flatley 192nd Airlift Sqdn
 Robert Dusty Hoadley 192nd Airlift Sqdn

CAPT/Capt

Shaun Cruze 152nd Airlift Wing
 Rachel Creger 152nd Medical Group
 Jared Brandt 152nd Medical Group
 Melissa Buschette 152nd Operations Support Flt
 Laura Boldry 137th Military Police Det
 Joseph Claros 992nd Troop Cmd

2LT/2Lt

Jennifer Arndell 100th Quartermaster Co
 Ruth Zeamer 100th Quartermaster Co
 Brian Hirsbrunner Joint Force Headquarters
 Alan Lapratt Joint Force Headquarters
 Michael Uffens Joint Force Headquarters

1LT/1Lt

Michael Bordallo 1/189th Aviation
 Michael Petersen 1864th Transportation Co
 Luis Muruato-Cortez 72nd Military Police Co
 Gordon Steinmann HHC, 422nd Sig Bn
 Nathaniel Carsey HHT, 1/221st Cav
 Dennis Flynn I Troop, 1/221st Cav
 Daniel Barraza L Troop, 1/221st Cav
 Jenelle Kimzey 152nd Airlift Wing
 Renee Popoff 152nd Intelligence Sqdn
 James Upton 152nd Maintenance Sqdn
 Shawn Trylick 232nd Operations Sqdn

CW2

Nicholas Forbes 1/168th MEDEVAC
 Lloyd Allen 1864th Transportation Co
 Stephan Rundell HHC, 422nd Sig Bn

CSM/CMSgt

Scott Baker Embedded Training Team
 Suzanne Albin Joint Force Headquarters
 Jose Aragon III HHC, 422nd Sig Bn

1SG/MSG/1stSgt/SMSgt

Ronald Demet 421st RTI
 David Pectol 92nd CST
 Heidi Merrill-Hernandez 992nd Troop Cmd
 Thomas Sauls Joint Force Headquarters
 Anthony Manginelli 992nd Troop Cmd
 Richard Deutch HHT, 1/221st Cav
 Shane Jensen Joint Force Headquarters
 Michael Hale NVARNG Rec/Ret

SFC/MSGt

Ryan Service 152nd Logistics Readiness Sqdn
 Vicki Kuykendall 152nd Medical Group
 James Blazer 152nd Security Forces Sqdn
 Todd Nylaan 192nd Airlift Sqdn

PROMOTIONS (continued)

Andrea Henle 192nd Airlift Sqdn
 Giovanna Boyer 232nd Operations Sqdn
 Nathaniel Seltenreich 100th Quartermaster Co
 Ricky Fitzgerald 421st RTI
 Edward Franco HHC, 422nd Sig Bn
 Julio Guerrero HHC, 422nd Sig Bn
 Yesenia Melendez HHC, 422nd Sig Bn
 Joseph Greenalch I Troop, 1/221st Cav

SSG/TSgt

Ted Ziegenfuss 100th Quartermaster Co
 Will Epps 1864th Transportation Co
 Scott Soyka 1864th Transportation Co
 Christina Espada 421st RTI
 James Pace 485th Military Police Co
 Phillip Askew 593rd Transportation Co
 Jennifer Palomino 593rd Transportation Co
 Wesley Brockmann 593rd Transportation Co
 Michael Miller 593rd Transportation Co
 Michael Silva 593rd Transportation Co
 Sean Stephenson 593rd Transportation Co
 Anthony Vedis 593rd Transportation Co
 Kamran Khan HHT, 1/221st Cav
 Derek Petersen HHT, 1/221st Cav
 Edelmark Villaespin HHT, 1/221st Cav
 Genaro Martinez Joint Force Headquarters
 James Ditmar L Troop, 1/221st Cav
 Philip Risi L Troop, 1/221st Cav
 Audrey Bococ NVARNG Med Det
 Edward Benite NVARNG Rec/Ret

Chasity Orr NVARNG Training Site
 Richard Laberta 152nd Aircraft Maintenance Sqdn
 Garrett Dacay 152nd Maintenance Sqdn
 Walter Spargo 152nd Maintenance Sqdn
 Lisa Maciel 152nd Medical Group
 Michelle O'Conner 152nd Medical Group
 Beth Torianni 152nd Medical Group
 Nathaniel Steiner 192nd Airlift Sqdn

SGT/SSgt

Shawn Horner 1/168th MEDEVAC
 Andrew Lynch 1/168th MEDEVAC
 Brandon Dewhurst 1/189th Aviation
 Vania Apodaca 1/189th Aviation
 Robert Knight Jr. 1/189th Aviation
 Tanya Gilbert 100th Quartermaster Co
 Hector Navarette 137th Military Police Det
 Daniel Thomassian 137th Military Police Det
 Clinton Reeder 150th Maintenance Co
 Richard Harris 150th Maintenance Co
 William Lyons 240th Engineer Co
 Kevin McKivitz 240th Engineer Co
 Todd Loreman 485th Military Police Co
 Madison Winzeler 485th Military Police Co
 Randy Buckner 593rd Transportation Co
 Lorenzo Aranda 72nd Military Police Co
 Justin Molnar C Co, 422nd Sig Bn
 Adam Ririe HHT, 1/221st Cav
 Jason Crockett HHT, 1/221st Cav
 John Sivia HHT, 1/221st Cav

Robert Dallenbach I Troop, 1/221st Cav
 Benjamin Delapaz I Troop, 1/221st Cav
 Carlos Esparza I Troop, 1/221st Cav
 Mike Nguyen I Troop, 1/221st Cav
 Heather Carlquist Joint Force Headquarters
 Saul Brown K Troop, 1/221st Cav
 Christopher Corrente K Troop, 1/221st Cav
 Alain Monroy K Troop, 1/221st Cav
 Jeremy Pavelka K Troop, 1/221st Cav
 Derrick Fore L Troop, 1/221st Cav
 Andrew Gregory L Troop, 1/221st Cav
 Jeffrey Dooley NVARNG Med Det
 Oreana Henry NVARNG Med Det
 David Lendowski NVARNG Med Det
 Stacy McMahon NVARNG Med Det
 James Cary 152nd Aircraft Maintenance Sqdn
 Lewis Dix III 152nd Intelligence Sqdn
 Mandy Nicholson 152nd Intelligence Sqdn
 Jessica Castro 152nd Logistics Readiness Sqdn
 Rhoderick Estrada 152nd Logistics Readiness Sqdn
 Carbajal Ontiveros 152nd Logistics Readiness Sqdn
 James Riger Jr. 152nd Logistics Readiness Sqdn
 Leon Steptore 152nd Logistics Readiness Sqdn
 John Magee 152nd Maintenance Sqdn
 Jeremy Vanyl 152nd Maintenance Sqdn
 Rachel Larson 152nd Medical Group
 Angie Rincon 152nd Medical Group
 Eric Singleton 152nd Security Forces Sqdn

Army Guard inducts three into Hall of Fame; thirty-seven recognized for military service

Story and photos by Lt. Col. Steve Ranson
 Joint Force Headquarters Public Affairs

The Nevada Army Guard recently inducted three new members into its Hall of Fame in Carson City. Also honored were 37 soldiers who have retired from military service since September 2007.

Previously retired soldiers inducted into this year's Hall of Fame include Lt. Col. Sharlee Smith of Reno, Chief Warrant Officer 4 Leo Fruzza of Sparks and Sgt. 1st Class Carmen Rank of Walker Lake. All three soldiers spent most of their careers working at the Office of the Adjutant General in Carson City.

Col. Michael Carlson, the Army Guard chief of staff, said the annual ceremony recognizes Guardsmen who have contributed at least 20 years to the military. The retirees account for hundreds of years of experience.

"Of the 37 retirees, they have a total of 874 years in uniform," Carlson said. "That averages to 23.6 years per individual."

Carlson also said Hall of Fame inductees still volunteer "their time and themselves after their own retirements" in order to make the Nevada Army Guard a better organization.

Brig. Gen. Frank Gonzales, commander of Army Guard for Nevada, congratulated the retirees and Hall of Fame inductees in his opening remarks.

"These people here put service (to their country) ahead of



Retired Sgt. 1st Class Carmen Rank, left, talks to Kenneth and Pam Curtzwiler of South Lake Tahoe after a retirement ceremony at state headquarters. Rank, a civilian employee of the Guard in Carson City, was inducted into the Hall of Fame, and Curtzwiler, who retired in May, was recognized for 20 years of service.

making money," he said.

Gonzales also discussed the role of the National Guard and how he and State Command Sgt. Major Stephen Sitton shake the hands of all Guardsmen when they leave the country for Iraq or Afghanistan and when they return.

The newest members of the Hall of Fame represent more than 80 years of experience. Smith, a 1970 graduate of Hug High School in Reno, retired in 2006. Since that time, she has been president of the Women's Army Veterans Corps and has donated more than 100 hours of community service in support of veterans. ■

ENLISTMENTS

1/168th MEDEVAC

Nicholas Herzberg

1/189th Aviation

Cody Carr
Raymond Roberts
Wen Wei
Colton Huits

100th Quartermaster Co

Jennifer Arndell
Matthew Avon
Christine Bowman
John Cook III
Baricante Dalusong
Tanya Gilbert
Christian Jasinski
Thomas Lafferty
Bryan Lancaster
Jordan Lopez
Anita Mann
Karl Nyland
Cassidy Paxson
Callye Russell
Nicholas Sarafin
Troy Tabanelli
Ruth Zeamer

137th Military Police Det

Sean Bradford
Steven Donaldson
Hector Navarette
Rusty Wainwright
Rolando Dominguez

150th Maintenance Co

Desiree Baiz
Demian Dillon
Jeremy Dries
Joseph Lash
Paul Netzler
Alexander Oliver
Clinton Reeder
Jolene Sonner
Corey Weist
Roman Floresortiz
Kassandra Hall
Clive Millett II
Yoshiko Navarro
Lesly Nunez
Jacob Rundquist
Jaime Shanahan
Matthew Wanlass

152nd Aircraft Maint Sqdn

Kevin Brun
Blair Mason

152nd Airlift Wing

George Dorsey

152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn

Jesse Humphrey
Ty Reid

152nd Intel Sqdn

Amber Deceunynck
Joseph Rice
Michael Johnson
Nichole Davis
Lindsey Coscuna
Harlin Heather

152nd Log Readiness Sqdn

Benjamin Gaetke
Wesley Falconer
Nicholas Remacle
Matthew DeMattei

152nd Maint Sdqn

Edward Perkins
Christopher Pope
Travis Heseltine
Jesse Holden
Burton Hestand
Jeffrey Stumpf Jr.
Jennifer Cronin
Bryan Bledsaw
Michael Depozsgay

152nd Medical Grp

Martin Bain
Norman Zellers

152nd Operations Support Flt

Huber Stephen

152nd Security Forces Sqdn

Karl Thomas
Nathan Trapp
Benjamin Berg
James Marson
Michael Miller

152nd Services Flt

Timothy Smith

1864th Trans Co

Joseph Hardy
Corey Runkel
Robert Andersen
Benjamin Antone
Vahan Egazarian

Justing Haws
Long Mai
Anthony Mitchelotti
Blair Poindexter
Christopher Reynolds
Christopher Rigopoulos
Emanuelle Rodriguez
Breann Valenzuela

192nd Airlift Sqdn

Christian Cattell
Christopher Hessler

232nd Operations Sqdn

Brian Toward

240th Engineer Co

Torri Akuna
Brian Arnett
Brian Baldwin
Christopher Boyd
Marcella Brown
David Callahan
Levi Chapel
Timothy Clark
Skie Crawford
Brett Eklund
Tevin Flores
Christopher Goyette
Adam Hernandez
Franklyn Krogman Jr.
Christopher Larson
Gilbert Lemos
William Lyons
Johnnie Martin
Kevin McKivitz
Donovan Neal
Nathan Owens
Kristofer Pastor
Imelda Salazar
Kenneth Smith
David Spencer
Adamlen Stowers
Justin Taylor
Nicholas Washington
Calvin Williams
Gabriel Zubia

485th Military Police Co

Richard Cline
John Gabriel
Christopher Hewitt
Jerry Kealty Jr.
Eric Lundin II
Jeremiah McPherson
James Pace
Thelma Padilla
Christopher Perry
Morgan Ruiz

Reynaldo Sadia Jr.
Eric Sakuma
Kristin Sarti
Andy Valdez

593rd Trans Co

David Brown
Ryan Harris
Thomas Kavanagh
Branden Lightsey
Billy Reynoso
Jonathan Terra
Virgilio Manipud Jr.
Craig Morgan
Clinton Brown
Seong Kim

72nd Military Police Co

Amethyst Booker
Lynn Hardin
Gregory Madsen
Roxana Martinez

777th Engineer Det

Keith Hawthorne Jr.
Michael Maddy
Arman Velasquez

991st Troop Cmd

Paul Dotto

C Co, 422nd Sig Bn

Bryan Bailey
Thomas Beasley
Tatiana Gilbert
Martius King
Anthony Lindmeier III
Maynard Lucas
Robert Poghen

Timothy Shafer
Ivana Williams

HHC, 422nd Sig Bn

Nicole Greb
Alistair Lamb
Linda Nelson
Kristy Reynolds
Juan Ruvalcaba
Robin Schultz
Craig Tanaka
Rodney Waters

HHT, 1/221st Cavalry

Candice Finnicum
Benjamin Powning
Daniel Ayers
James Creviston
Isaac Crow
Stephen Matthews
Raymond Parga
Gil Reeder
Adam Ririe
David Sanford
Juan Solis
Jerry Stanis Jr.
Ian Collins
John Gutierrez
Felipe Herrera
Kevin Jaworski
Dennis Park
Harold Park
Andrew Petersen
Steve Sanson Jr.

I Troop, 1/221st Cavalry

Daniel Bivins
Kenneth Boykin

Shan Campbell
Alexander Davis
Luke Morrison
Scott Morse
Roberto Vera-Gutierrez

JFHQ

Thomas Delaney
Brian Hirsbrunner
Richard Howes
Justin Hurt
Alan Lapratt
Michael Uffens
Christopher Whitmer
Nicholas Martinez

K Troop, 1/221st Cavalry

Saul Brown
Sean Kay
Alain Monroy
Justin Nielsen

L Troop, 1/221st Cavalry

Daniel Adams
Christopher Bushey
Benjamin Johnson
Nicholas Keller
Zachary Kumler
Jonathan Loder
Jason Matthews Jr.
Joshua Olson
Nathaniel Pouloupoulos

NVARNG Med Det

Jeremy Manuele

RETIREMENTS

CW3 Alton Alexander JFHQ
SFC Susan Ashfield HHC, 422nd Sig Bn
SFC Duane Engstrom HHT, 1/221st Cavalry
TSgt Steven G. Garback 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
LtCol Roy D. Garcia 192nd Airlift Sqdn
SGT Randall Jaques 485th Military Police Co
MSG Richard Lee HHC, 422nd Sig Bn
MSgt Doc L. Miller 152nd Civil Engineer Sqdn
LtCol Douglas C. Nesler 152nd Medical Group
MSgt Eugene Parker 152nd Log Readiness Sqdn
TSgt Brian A. Puukila 152nd Security Forces Sqdn

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